

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1228

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor Colonel Warner A. Ross II.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to recognize an outstanding military officer and his troops who are faithfully serving our nation's interests and assisting our regional allies in the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Warner A. Ross II is currently serving with distinction as the commanding officer of the 194th Engineer Brigade, Tennessee Army National Guard, whose headquarters is based out of Jackson; and

WHEREAS, since December 7, 2019, Colonel Ross and the 194th Engineer Brigade have been deployed overseas in support of the United States' military operations in the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, headquartered at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, the 194th Engineer Brigade includes more than 2,000 soldiers and seventeen subordinate units from several states, including Tennessee, in its current deployment; and

WHEREAS, the Engineer Brigade tasked with providing command/control of all engineer units and capabilities in the Middle East theater, the 194th works in multiple countries (Syria, Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia) and supports three key named military theater operations, Operation Spartan Shield, Operation Inherent Resolve, and Operation Freedom Sentinel; and

WHEREAS, through adroit leadership, Colonel Ross has molded the soldiers of the 194th into a close-knit team with a strong spirit of cooperation that has ensured their mission's ongoing success; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Ross is now proudly serving his country in his third deployment to the Middle East since September 11, 2001; in addition to his military commission, he positively influences young lives as the director of schools for Hardeman County; and

WHEREAS, the 194th has reached the ninety-day mark in-country and will return home late this fall; and

WHEREAS, in the meantime, we are confident that Colonel Ross and the men and women of the 194th Engineer Brigade will continue to support our combat operations and our regional allies in the Middle East with the greatest professionalism, dedication, and courage; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Colonel Warner A. Ross II and the soldiers of the 194th Engineer Brigade, Tennessee Army National Guard, for their valiant service in bringing stability to the Middle East and thank them for their sacrifice as we eagerly anticipate their return to "high ground."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.